

Message Text

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64

ACTION AEC-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCI-06 DRC-01 RSC-01 ACDA-19

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8644

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

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E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: AEC REPRESENTATIVE BOMBAY

REF: (A)1 NEW DELHI 14760 (B) BOMBAY 2405

1. TEXT BOMBAY 2405 FOLLOWS: "IN DISCUSSINGPOSSIBLE AEC REPLACEMENT FOR DR. PINAJIAN AT BOMBAY, CHAIRMAN AEC SETHNA TOLD EMBASSY SCIATT WILLIAMS AND ME ON 14TH THAT IF REPLACED NOW HE WOULD LIKE A REACTOR PHYSICIST. IF NOT REPLACED FOR ABOUT A YEAR, HE WOULD LIKE A FOOD IRRADIATION EXPERT, A FIELD TO WHICH THEY ARE DEVOTING CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION. A THIRD POSSIBILITY WOULD BE A SPECIALIST IN LOW DOSE RADIATION. HE REFERRED TO STUDIES THEY CONDUCTED ON KERALA BEACH SANDS AND NOTED THAT DR. SUNDARAM, WHO WORKING ON THE PROJECT, WOULD BE IN WASHINGTON AT WHO DECEMBER 17 THROUGH 19. SETHNA OF OPINION A SPECIALIST IN THIS FIELD WOULD BE HIGHLY USEFUL NOW AND THIS COULD BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO US. BANE"

2. ALL THESE AREAS SETHNA MENTIONS ARE FINE, BUT I WANT TO MAKE SURE WE GET A SCIENTIST WHO IS NOT ONLY COMPETENT IN HIS TECHNICAL FIELD BUT ALERT TO THE IMPORTANCETO THE US GOVERNMENT OF THE POTENTIAL MILITARY DIRECTION OF INDIAN NUCLEAR DEVELOPMENT AS WELL. I DON'T WANT SOMEONE WHO IS SO ABSORBED IN

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IRRADIATED NUTS AND FRUITS THAT HE MISSES SIGNS OF INDIAN

PREPARATION FOR A PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSION OR THE PRODUCTION
OF LARGER AMOUNTS OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS THAN THE FRUITS AND
NUTS MAY REQUIRE. MY OWN PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR A REACTOR
PHYSICIST WHO READS "THE PUBLIC INTEREST" AND "FOREIGN AFFAIRS".
THE INDIANS HAVE BEEN HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THEIR REACTOR AT
TARAPUR AND THEIR CONCENTRATION ON FAST BREEDER REACTORS AT
KALPACUM ADDS TO THE LOGIC OF A REACTOR MAN IN BOMBAY.
I HOPETHE RIGHT MAN CAN BE FOUND SOON.
MOYNIHAN

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